



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release Upon Receipt

LIMITS ON IMPORTATION OF MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS FOR SEASON OF 1953-54

American sportsmen planning trips to Canada or Mexico this fall to hunt ducks, geese, and other migratory game birds must comply with certain requirements when bringing such birds into the United States, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay said today.

Migratory game birds brought or shipped from Canada, if dressed, must have the head, head plumage, and feet attached. Shipments from Canada must be accompanied by tags or permits if required by provincial or Dominion law. Those transported from Mexico must be dressed, drawn and have the head and feet removed. Such birds exported from Mexico require a Mexican export permit, or an endorsement on the license by a Mexican game official granting permission to export the birds, or exhibition of the hunting license on which the official seal of the issuing office has been impressed or endorsed for exporting birds.

During any one calendar week within the open season in Canada or Mexico where killed, not more than the following limits of migratory game birds lawfully taken and exported in accordance with the laws of Canada or Mexico, may be imported:

Ducks (except American, red-breasted and hooded mergansers)--10 of any species, or 11 provided such limit contains at least 4 pintail or widgeon singly or in the aggregate, but such limits, may not include more than one wood duck. American and red-breasted mergansers--25 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds. Hooded merganser--1. Scoters (sea coots), eider or old-squaw ducks--14 singly or in the aggregate. Geese (except Ross' Goose)--6, which limit may include not more than (a) 5 blue, (b) or 4 Canada or 4 white-fronted, (c) or 3 tule or 3 emperor, singly or in the aggregate of these kinds. Brant--6. Coot--25. Woodcock--8. Jacksnipe--8. Band-tailed pigeons--6. Doves, mourning and white-winged--10, singly or in the aggregate of both kinds. Rails and Gallinules (except sora)--15, singly or in the aggregate. Sora--25.

A shipment made not later than 5 days after the close of the season may continue in transit for not over 5 additional days to permit delivery at destination.

A hunter may not transport into or possess at any one time in the United States any migratory game birds of the kinds stated above in excess of these limits regardless of where any such birds were killed. The Federal regulations do not authorize importation into or possession of such birds where contrary to State laws.

Packages must be marked with name and address of shipper and consignee, with an accurate statement of the numbers and kinds of birds clearly and conspicuously shown on the outside.

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